A NEVV DECLARATION OF THE CITIZENS OF LONDON TO THE LORD General Monck IN SCOTLAND,

Sent Post to his Excellency, by Order from the Common Council.

With his Excellencies Answer, and further Resolution, brought Post on Saturday last to the City; And Proposals to the people, touching the Parliament and Nation.

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MAY 28 1920

CITIZENS
OF
LONDON

A DECLARATION OF THE City of LONDON:

THe Lord General *Monck* having received a Letter from the Lord Mayor, Aldermen and Common Council of the City of *London*, wherein they declared their cordial Concurrence with his Honour, in disowning the Authors of that Force, who interrupted the Parliament, and ravished the Birth-Right of these Nations, by daring to null and make void Acts of Parliament, hoping to contribute somewhat (by Gods blessing) in their Councils, and Actions, to the preventing of the said consequences of that exorbitant presumption. Declaring further, That they fully and intirely comply with his Honour, in asserting the Authority and Freedom of Parliament; a National Ministery, for the enlightning of the ignorant, and suppressing of Atheisme; and the peoples just Rights and Liberties; Resolving by Gods Assistance, to persist faithfully and rigorously in this good Cause. This was communicated to his Excellency on *Wednesday* last, by the City Sword-Bearer, who went Post with it, by Order from a Common Council held at *Guild-Hall*, *London*; And upon reading thereof, his Excellency the Lord General *Monck*, returned

Thanks to the City for their pious and noble Resolutions; to appear at such an Exigent, to be instrumental with him, to assert and vindicate the greatest Interests of these Nations, both Religious and Civil. And that he is resolved to acquiesce and center with the Parliament, and stand by them in their just Rights, Liberties, and Freedoms.

Thursday Jan. 5.

Ordered, That a Letter be written to Lieut. Gen. *Ludlow*, Col. *John Jones*, and Mr. *Miles Corbet*, forthwith to give their attendance on the Parliament (as also unto Col. *Tomlinson*) and to give the Parliament an account of their management of the affaires in *Ireland*, and ordered that the Letter be signed and sealed by the Speaker.

Ordered, That it be referred to the Council of State, to consider how the Civil and Authoritative power in *Ireland* may be setled.

Ordered, That the Council of State do consider how the Army in Ireland shall be governed, and what Commissioners are fitting for the government thereof, and to report their opinion therein to the Parliament.

Resolved, That this House doth approve of what hath been done by Sir *Hardresse Waller*, Sir *Charles Coot*, and Sir *Theophilus Jones*, and other the Officers of the Army in *Ireland* for the service of the Parliament, and that a Letter of thanks be sent unto them for their good service done for the Parliament.

Resolved, That upon the whole matter of the report touching absent Members, the Parliament doth adjudge and declare, that the Members who stand discharged from voting or sitting as Members of this House, in the years 1648, or 1649, do stand duly discharged by Judgement of Parliament, from sitting as Members of this present Parliament, during this Parliament: And it is ordered that Writs do issue forth to Elect new ones in their places.

Ordered, That the several cases of the Lord *Fairfax* and Sir *Anthony Ashley-Cooper*, be referred unto the Committee unto whom absent Members was referred, to examine matters of Fact, with power to send for witnesses, and to examine them touching

touching the same and to make their report with their opinion touching the respective cases to the Parliament. And also ordered, that the cases of *Mr. Nathaniel* and *Francis Bacon*, be referred to the same Committee to examine, *&c.* and report the same to the Parliament forthwith.

From York, Jan. 2.

Yesterday morning Major *Smithson* and the Irish Brigade did meet the Lord *Fairfax*, and several of the Gentry of these parts at *Hessen-Moore*, where several persons which had been in Arms against the Parliament, and then protested against, were dismissed: as the Duke of *Buckingham* and several others: after which they marched towards *York*, and drew up before *Mickle-gate-bar*, demanding the Rendition thereof to them. Col. *Lilburn* and some Forces who were within, having consulted of the message, agreed the following Declaration, and sent it to the Forces without, with this *proviso*, that such as would sign it, should be admitted: which being done, the City was delivered up, the Irish Brigade marching in, the rest retiring to their severall places of aboad.

THE DECLARATION.

We do declare to adhere to this present Parliament, as it consists of the Members that sat the tenth of October *now last past, against a King or any other single Person whatsoever: and that this City of York shall be preserved for, and delivered to whomsoever the said Parliament shall Authorize, and appoint to keep it for their use.*

Subscribed

ROB. LILBURNE &c.

In

In the next place, I shall proceed to offer some few Queries to the consideration of all Parties, that take themselves to be concerned in the peace and prosperity of *England*, and submit all to the consideration of the unprejudiced Reader.

I. Whether it be by any rational man supposed, That the *Kings* of *England*, as *single persons*, had their *power* and *magistracy* by the *immediate designation of God*?

II. Whether (if not by *Gods immediate appointment*) it was not attained by *force* or *fraud*, or conferred upon them by *mutuall compact* and *agreement* for *Society* and *Safety sake*?

III. Whether (if so conferred) the *people conferring* was not the *supreme Authority*?

IV. Whether it can, upon any principles of Reason, be imagined, That the *people*, thus sensible of the benefit of *Society*, and in order thereto making choice of such a *form* of *command* and *subjection*, did not also by some *equal rules* ballance the *power*, to prevent *Tyranny* in their *King*, and *slavery* to *them* and their *posterities*?

V. Whether (if the *power* were attained by *force* or *fraud*, although for a time the people for necessity sake do submit) may they not throw off that *Yoke*, and recover their *freedoms* if by any meanes they can?

VI. Whether, in case of compact, the *King* taking upon him the *Government*, upon Condition of *performance*, and that upon *oath* solemnly taken in the presence of the *people*, he shall notwithstanding, act according to *Will* and not *Law*, thereby rendring that which was intended for the *common good*, a *common mischief*; I say, whether in this case the people are tied up to a *slaviſh*, *servile Obedience*, and left without all manner of remedy, either of *divesting* him of that *Authority*, or of *calling* him to an *account*, or *judging him* by the said *compact* and *agreement*; and if so, upon what principles of *Reason* or *Prudence* could they submit to such a *slavery*?

VII. Whether

VII. Whether, if the people may call their *King*, or *supreme Magistrate* to an account, they may not elect another, or choose and establish any other *form of Government*, to them appearing most conducible to their *safety*?

VIII. Whether any *Government* be more likely to answer the great ends of the people, than when their *Laws* are made by their *Representatives equally elected* and *limited*, as to the *exercise* of that *power*, so that he that *commands* this year, shall taste of *subjection* the next, and therefore will be careful how he entails *slavery* upon *himself* and *posterity*; the Law binding all alike, and not saying, Thou shalt not *kill* but I may, *but whosoever sheddeth mans blood, by man shall his blood be shed*; and so in all other cases?

IX. Whether the *present Parliament* be not the most likely persons to establish a *Government* upon the most *equal Principles* of *Freedom*, that have so frequently declared for it, so zealously contested against *Tyranny*, even unto the *blood* of the *Tyrant*, and remain so solemnly engaged to *God* and *man*, both by their own *Declarations*, *Promises* and *Principles*, according to the best of their judgements to accomplish it, and that as a testimony of their thankfulness for the *eminent deliverances* that *God* hath given them in their endeavours to obtain it?

X. Whether the *discontents* of the people, and endeavouring to bring in a *Family*, that, it is to be feared, *God* hath set his face against for *evil*, may not onely provoke God to deal with *England* as with *Israel* of old, *and give them a King in his wrath*, but also bring a judgement of *war* upon this *Nation*, with the miseries accrewing; and then, when it is too late, men will wish for that peace, which now is so irksom and troublesom?

XI. Whether, if the *present Parliament* had a desire (as is pretended) *to perpetuate their Power*, the hair-braind actions of the generality of the present Generation, doth not treat a real occasion, it not being safe to trust *unskilful riders* with such *Wild Asses*?

XII. Whether

XII. Whether, (if notwithstanding) the present Parliament, through the blessing of God, shall attain the *desired end of peace and freedom*, by the settlement of successive Representatives, and make due provision for the equal distribution of Justice; and having established this Nation upon a sure *basis* or *form* of *Government*, as a *Common-wealth*, shall in some convenient time dissolve themselves; whether, *I* say, most persons in *England* will not have just cause to take shame to themselves for the slanders, reproches, interruptions and hard Thoughts they have harboured against their faithful Patriots, who, maugre all difficulties, have been supported in their spirits to prosecute their *work*, resting upon the *righteous judgement of God*, and not valuing the threats or tumultuary disturbances of contrary minded men?

FINIS.